

3. *X. cyanodorsalis* (Dubois), from Central Columbia (*X. incas*, part., Sharpe). White postfrontal band extended over vertex; nape blue; back washed with blue; abdomen pale yellow.

4. *X. incas* (Bodd.), from Western Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Whole nape and top of head white, slightly washed on the nape with bluish in some specimens; back green; abdomen yellow.

Of this last species I have examples before me from Antioquia (*Salmon*); Bucaramanga, Magdalena valley (*Wyatt*); Maraviña, Ecuador (*Buckley*); Peru; and Yungas, Bolivia (*Buckley*).

In my opinion these four forms, of which only the more salient characters are above given, are entitled to specific rank. The Venezuelan form comes nearest to the northern bird, as is the case in other groups with similar distribution. In the same way *Catharus aurantiirostris* of Venezuela is more like *C. melpomene* of Mexico and Central America than any of the Columbian forms of the same genus.

VII.—On recent Additions to our Knowledge of the Avifauna of the Sandwich Islands. By P. L. SCLATER.

(Plate II.)

SOME time ago I contributed to this Journal* a summary of what was then known of the avifauna of the Sandwich Islands, based mainly upon an article upon the subject by Mr. Dole, which had appeared in the 'Proceedings' of the Boston Society of Natural History a short time before. From its remoteness from all other land, and from the known peculiarities of its fauna, the Sandwich-Island archipelago presents features of no ordinary interest; and it is much to be desired that a complete investigation of its native fauna and flora should be made before they are destroyed by civilization or contaminated by the intrusion of wandering forms of general distribution. Looking to the facility of access to the Sand-

* Ibis, 1871, p. 356.

wich Islands, and to the presence of a civilized race there, it is much to be wondered at that this investigation has not yet taken place. There can be no doubt, however, that we are still very imperfectly acquainted with many branches of the natural history of the Sandwich Islands, and that there remains in this group a most interesting piece of work to be performed by any naturalist who will devote some time to the investigation of the islands, and ascertain exactly what peculiar species are found in each of them, and what are generally distributed throughout the archipelago.

On the present occasion I have to chronicle three contributions made to the avifauna of the Sandwich Islands since 1871, each of which has added something towards our stock of knowledge on this subject.

In the 'Bulletin de la Société Philomathique de Paris' for May 1877, as already recorded in this Journal*, M. Oustalet has described a new genus and species belonging to the Hawaiian avifauna under the name *Loxioides bailleni*. Of this very remarkable type, through the kindness of the authorities of the Jardin des Plantes, who have parted with one of their specimens of it in exchange, I am now enabled to give a figure (Plate II.). It will be at once observed that *Loxioides* in general appearance is closely allied to *Psittirostra*. The form, size, and distribution of colours are similar. When we come to a closer comparison of the skins the result arrived at is the same. The wing-formula is nearly the same in each. There are nine fully formed primaries, of which the first is about equal to the fifth, and the intermediate ones are the longest in the wing. In *Psittirostra* these three primaries are nearly equal in length; in *Loxioides* the second is rather more elongated beyond its fellows. The structure of the feet in the two forms is also nearly similar, those of *Psittirostra* being, however, shorter and stouter. The tarsi in both cases are unmistakably *Oscinine*, and the divisions of the scutes are quite obsolete. In the shape of the bill only, as will be seen by the outlines (*a* of the bill of *Loxioides*, and *b* of that of *Psittirostra*) given on Plate II., there is considerable diver-

* Ibis, 1878, p. 376.



J.G. Keulemans lith

Hanhart imp

LOXIOIDES BAILLEUI.

gence, that of the newly discovered form being considerably shorter and much more swollen laterally than that of *Psittirostra*. This, and the differences in the feet, may justify the separation of the two forms into two genera; but there cannot be the slightest doubt that they are very nearly allied together, and must be placed next to one another in the system.

M. Oustalet places *Loxioides* "near the Finches and *Paradoxornis*." But *Paradoxornis* has, I believe, no near relationship to the Finches. And I adhere to my previously expressed sentiment*, that in all probability *Psittirostra*, and with it *Loxioides*, are not really Fringilline genera, but merely abnormal forms of the same type as *Drepanis* and *Hemignathus*, either belonging to or closely allied to the Dicæidæ†. This question, however, can only be satisfactorily determined by an examination of the structure of the tongue and other soft parts.

M. Oustalet kindly informs me that the specimens of *Loxioides bailleni* were obtained in the large island Hawaii or Owhyhee. In the same collection were several examples of *Corvus hawaiiensis*, which I had never previously seen in any museum, except in Philadelphia many years ago.

In Dr. Streets's "Contributions to the Natural History of the Hawaiian and Fanning Islands and Lower California," lately published in part 7 of the 'Bulletin of the United-States National Museum,' we have another recent contribution to our knowledge of the fauna of the Sandwich Islands. As regards the class of birds, however, the addition is but small, two species only being mentioned as having been obtained in this locality during the survey with which Dr. Streets was connected. These are *Fulica alai*, and *Gallinula sandvicensis* already described by Dr. Streets in a former number of 'The Ibis' (1877, p. 25). Both these birds were procured in the island of Oahu.

* Cf. Ibis, 1871, p. 360.

† *Mohoa* seems to be a Meliphagine form; but *Drepanis*, *Hemignathus*, and the other genera (except perhaps *Chatoptila*) in the list given, Ibis, 1871, p. 360, having only nine primaries, should probably be referred to the Dicæidæ.

A third recent addition to our knowledge of the Hawaiian avifauna has been made by the naturalists of the 'Challenger' Expedition, which visited Owhyhee in August 1875, and during their short stay obtained examples of thirteen species of birds*. Most of these were already well known; but one of them (*Anas wyvilliana*) proved to be new to science, and a second an example of the little-known *Buteo solitarius* of Peale, which, through some strange misconception, was referred by Cassin to the genus *Pandion*.

Intercalating these additions into the list, we find that the Hawaiian avifauna, according to our present state of information, may be held to embrace about forty-four species, whereof the following twenty-three are peculiar to the Hawaiian group, namely:—

a. PASSERES.

Chasiempis sandvicensis.	Drepanis flava.
Phæornis obscura.	Hemignathus olivaceus.
Mohoa nobilis.	—— obscurus.
—— braccata.	—— lucidus.
—— apicalis.	Loxops coccinea.
Chætoptila angustipluma.	Loxioides bailleni.
Drepanis pacifica.	Psittirostra psittacea.
—— coccinea.	Corvus hawaiiensis.
—— sanguinea.	

b. ACCIPITRES.

Buteo solitarius.

c. ANSERES.

<i>Bernicla sandvicensis</i> .	<i>Anas wyvilliana</i> .
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d. FULICARIÆ.

<i>Fulica alai</i> .	<i>Porzana obscura</i> .
<i>Gallinula sandvicensis</i> .	

VIII.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

1. 'Bulletin' of the Nuttall Ornithological Club.

[Vol. iii. no. 4, October 1878. Cambridge, Mass.]

Our American contemporary continues to prosper, we are

* See P. Z. S. 1878, p. 346.